

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4382

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, AO, PO, PINT, PFOR

SUBJ: MOBUTU PRESIDES AT FIRST POLITICAL BUREAU MEETING

SINCE "COUP MANQUE"

REF: KINSHASA 7929

1. ON SEPT 3 MOBUTU PRESIDED AT FIRST POLITICAL BUREAU MEETING
SINCE JUNE "COUP MANQUE". OFFICIAL ZAIRIAN NEWAGENCY REPORT SEPTEMBER
4 SAID MEETING CONSISTED OF TOUR D'HORIZON OF INTERNAL AND MORE
PARTICULARLY EXTERNAL SITUATIONS, HIGHLIGHTS OF WHICH SUMMARIZED AS
FOLLOWS:

ANGOLA

2. IN VIEW CATASTROPHIC SITUATION IN ANGOLA, ZAIRE STANDS READY TO
RECEIVE REFUGEES (ANGOLANS AND PORTUGUESE) FROM ANGOLA. STATE COM-
MISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS SO INFORMED UN SYG AND UNHCR
COMMISSIONER. ZAIRE ACTS FROM HUMANITARIAN MOTIVE, AND IN SPITE OF
DIFFICULT ECONOMIC SITUATION.

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3. SINCE JUNE 1 ACCORD WITH PORTUGAL, ZAIRE HAS REGARDED ALL 3 ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS ON EQUAL FOOTING. JUST AS SAVIMBI HAS BEEN WELCOMED IN KINSHASA BY MOBUTU, SO WOULD NETO WERE HE TO COME TO ZAIRE.

ISRAEL

4. ZAIRE'S OPPOSITION TO EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN IS REAFFIRMED. BREAK OF RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL IN 1973 WAS ITSELF AN EXTREME STEP. TO VOTE NOW TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM UN WOULD BE TO GO "FROM THE EXTREME TO EXTREMISM". THIS POSITION WAS EXPLAINED AT LIMA NAC. ZAIRE WILL NEVER BE A PART OF ANY MOVE TO SUPPRESS OR EXCLUDE ANY STATE (RPT ANY STATE) FROM AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

5. MOBUTU INFORMED POLITICAL BUREAU OF IMPORTANCE OF RAW MATERIALS MEETING NOW IN PROGRES IN NEW YORK. EXPLAINED ZAIRE'S POSITION ON REFORM OF WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM (NO DETAILS GIVEN).

LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

6. STATE COMMISSIONER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS ENGULU TOLD POLITICAL BUREAU THAT CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ALMOST FINISHED, AND THAT BUREAU WILL MEET VERY SOON TO EXAMINE THEIR DOSSIERS BEFORE SUBMITTING NAMES FOR ELECTIONS. SPOKESMAN COMMENTED AT

END OF HIS STATEMENT THAT BUREAU WOULD MEET AGAIN SOON TO DISCUSS MORE THOROUGHLY DOMESTIC ISSUES.

7. IN SEPT 3 STATEMENT TO AZAP, MOBUTU EXPLAINED HIS LONG ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS OF POLITICAL BUREAU AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON GROUND THAT, IN AFTERMATH OF JUNE "PLOT", HE THOUGHT IT BEST TO WITHDRAW FOR A TIME TO MEASURE "FRANKNESS AND SINCERITY" OF HIS COLLEAGUES. THIS TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL WAS NECESSARY IN VIEW IMPLICATION IN PLOT OF RANKING OFFIERS IN MILITARY, EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES. BUT NOW THAT "COUP MANQUE" TRAIL IS COMPLETE, PRESIDENT IS READY TO "TURN THE PAGE". CONCERNING HIS RUMORED INTNET TO CHANGE MPR/GOZ STRUCTURE, MOBUTU SAID HE FAVORS STABILITY, THAT COLLABORATORS WHO HAVE CLEAR CONSCIENCES CAN CONTINUE TO WORK

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WITH HIM PAS IN PAST.

COMMENT

8. ABSENCE OF DETAIL ON INTERNAL SITUATION SCARCELY SURPRISING IN VIEW OF SERIOUS LABOR UNREST SPARKED BY ILL-CONCEIVED WAGE CUTS (REFTEL). BUT THIS SITUATION HAS BEEN AT LEAST PARTIALLY REMEDIED BY AN "ADJUSTMENT IN THE ADJUSTMENT", DECIDED ON SEPT 3 AND REPORTED

SEPTEL. PRESUMABLY OTHER INTERNAL PROBLEMS WILL BE DISCUSSED AT MEETINGS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS (PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS) TO BE HELD KINSHASA SEPTEMBER 5.

9. MOBUTU'S REMARK CONCERNING CHANGE IN MPR/GOZ STRUCTURE TRACKS WITH VARIOUS RUMORS OF LAST SEVERAL WEEKS, MOST SPECIFIC OF THESE RUMORS WAS TO EFFECT ONE LAYER (THE POLITICAL BUREAU) MIGHT BE REMOVED FROM THE STRUTURE, TO BE REPLACED BY A KIND OF CABINET WHOSE MEMBERS WOULD ALSO HEAD EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. CABINET WOULD BE SUPERVISED BY EXECUTIVE TRIUMVIRATE (ALL MILITARY) ACCOUNTABLE DIRECTLY TO THE PRESIDENT.

10. SOME HERE SKEPTICAL OVER MOBUTU'S PROFESSED ANNOUNCEMENT OF NO CHANGE.

11. IT SEEMS QUITE CLEAR THAT ZAIRE'S POSITION ON NON-EXCLUSION OF MEMBER STATES FROM UN IS ALSO DESIGNED TO COVER A MODERATE POSITION ON SOUTH AFRICA.

WALKER

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